GNSS CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP IN INDIA

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency (TDA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Department of Transportation (DOT) are working in cooperation with the Government of India to address the requirements for implementing a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) in India. As part of this initiative, TDA and FAA co-hosted two events in India. The GPS Technical Workshop was held in Bangalore, April 22-26th and the GNSS Conference and Exhibition was held April 29-30th in New Delhi.

Deputy Chief of U.S. Mission, Albert A. Thibault provided opening remarks at the start of the conference. Mr. Mike Shaw, Director of U.S. Navigation Policy, DOT; Mr. Dennis Beres, CNS Representative for the Asia Pacific Region (ASD-500), and Mr. Dan Hanlon, WAAS Project Manager (AND-730), represented the FAA and provided presentations on U.S. GNSS technologies and augmentations. Presentations focused around the primary issues and decisions that the Government of India (the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MOCA), Airports Authority of India (AAI), Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)), as decision-makers, will face in adopting GNSS and as they move forward to implement Communications/Navigation/Surveillance Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) aviation systems in their country. Applications and benefits that these technologies offer were highlighted to the Government of India as they launch their national CNS/ATM program.

In addition to the 2-day high-level conference, technical experts from the U.S. government and U.S. Industry were in Bangalore the previous week for a 5-day technical workshop and instruction on GNSS geared towards engineers and scientists from India. There were over 120 technical experts and industry engineers that participated from all over India. The workshop was held in Bangalore, India, site of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) headquarters.

The cooperation technical between the U.S. and India has been very productive and is the cornerstone for providing a future seamless satellite-based navigation operating environment within and between our respective airspaces. While conventional ground-based systems will continue to play an important role in our transition to a future satellite-based operating environment, we need to collectively implement satellite navigation to take aviation safety to the next level. This can and should be accomplished through continued cooperation, as well as joint multilateral support and assistance to promote the implementation of a regional seamless satellite navigation capability in the Asia Pacific Region.

The FAA believes promoting implementation of new aviation technologies within the region should continue and encourages the ministers to endorse these efforts. The FAA would like to acknowledge the following U.S. Industry for their continued support and participation in the implementation of GNSS:

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